



PATENT

Our Docket: 066661-021 (P-IS 4403)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of:  
Hood and Siegel

Serial No.: 09/724,898

Filed: November 28, 2000

For: MULTIPARAMETER ANALYSIS  
FOR PREDICTIVE MEDICINE

) Group Art Unit: 1631  
Examiner: M. Zeman

)  
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Claims 1-143 are pending and have been restricted under  
35 U.S.C. § 121 into the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1-16, 138, 139 and 141, drawn to a  
method of determining a comparative expression profile wherein  
multidimensional coordinate points, representative of expression  
levels of molecules, are compared, and a computer system and  
computer-readable medium therefore;

Group II: Claims 17-32, 58-64 and 140, drawn to a  
second method of determining comparative expression profiles  
wherein expression levels of a sample of molecules are directly  
compared, and a computer-readable media therefore;

Group III: Claims 33-57 and 135-137, drawn to a third  
method of determining a comparative expression profile, wherein

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levels of "a molecule" are compared, and computer systems therefore;

Group IV: Claims 65-134, drawn to methods of diagnosing a health state or disease using comparative expression profiles; and

Group V: Claims 142-143, drawn to carrier waves.

The Examiner requests that one of the groups of claims be elected for examination. Although the restriction requirement is traversed for the reasons set forth below, Applicants elect the claims of Group IV, claims 65-134, for examination.

The Restriction Requirement is traversed with respect to the division of the claims of Group IV from the claims of Group I. While the claims of Groups I and IV are patentably distinct, it is submitted that a thorough search of the claims of either group will likely reveal art relevant to the examination of the claims of the other group. Thus, a search of the claims of Group IV will, of necessity, reveal information relevant to the examination of the claims of Group I and, therefore, division of the claims into these groups would result in duplicative searches. Accordingly, examination of the claims of Group IV with the claims of Group I together should not be an undue burden on the Examiner.

Applicants elect the claims of Group IV, claims 65-134, for examination. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully request

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that the Restriction Requirement be reconsidered and that the claims of Group IV be examined with the claims of Group I. The Examiner is invited to call Cathryn Campbell or the undersigned agent if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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